Weekly National Intelligencer.

By GALES & SEATON. JAMES C. WELLING, ASSOCIATE EDITOR. The subscription price of this paper for a year is Two DOLLARS, payable in advance.

A reduction of 20 per cent. (one-fifth of the full charge will be made to any one who shall order and pay for, at one time, ten copies of the Weekly paper; and a reduction of 25 per cent. (or one-fourth of the full charge) to any one who willorder and pay for, at one time, twenty or more

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THE FORGED PROCLAMATION.

The criminal fraud just practised on the New York press by the fabrication of the spurious Presidential proclamation does not rise to the dignity of the famous "moon hoax" of Mr. Locke, but is about as ingenious as the pretended annual message of President Van Buren to Congress in 1838, though not as innocent as was that amusing invention. This fraud of Wednesday morning on the press of New York caused a great sensation in that excitable city until the deception was discovered, and then the trick itself was the great topic of the day. It has not been traced to its authors, although it would seem to have originated in New York, and the detectives have been on the alert.

The spurious document, it appears, was carried to the different printing offices in manifold writing in the semblance of telegraph news, but at so late an hour that it obtained admission in but two or three journals, the others having gone to press. Even the proprietors of those papers which gave currency to the forgery had left their offices, and the employes who inserted it had no suspicion that it was not genuine telegraphic news. The publication of the document, however, was followed by serious consequences to the proprietors of the journals thus imposed upon.

We learn from the New York papers received last night that Gen. Dix, by direction of the Secretary of War, had on Wednesday suppressed the two newspapers which gave publicity to the spurious proclamation-the Journal of Commerce and the World-and ordered the editors of those papers to be imprisoned in Fort Lafayette. (The latter part of the order, it appears, was subsequently suspended.) This seems to us, we must say, a very harsh proceeding-to inflict a severe punishment victims of an infamous fraud. It was punishment enough, we should think, to be made the innocent instruments of a villanous imposition, to which all men are liable, without adding the penalty of damage to their property and incarceration of their persons. They have published at New York a protest against the severity of this proceeding, in which the facts of the case are fully stated, and which, in justice to them, we place before our readers.

Protest of the Editors of the World and Journal

Will you oblige us by publishing in your columns the following statement of the proceedings of the Government this evening towards the World and the Journal of Comrce, regarding the publication in our morning's issues of the forged proclamation, purporting to be signed by Pre-sident Lincoln, appointing a day of fasting and prayer, and calling into the military service four hundred thousand men. document in question was written on the manifold such as is used for all the despatches sent to the

eral newspapers of our association, and had every external appearance and mark to identify it as a genuine d spatch arriving in the regular course of business.

It was delivered at our office late at night, at the time of

the receipt of our latest news—too late of course for editorial supervision, but, as it happened, not before our print-It was delivered at all or nearly all of the newspaper offices, and published in a part of the morning editions of the Journal of Commerce and World, and, as we are in-

formed, in a part of the editions of one or more of ou Early this morning the fact that the despatch had no

been sent by the Agent of the Associated Press became nounced upon our bulletin boards, and a reward of five hun dred dollars offered by us for the discovery of the forger The Executive Committee of the Associated Press als offered a similar reward of one thousand dollars, as the fraud had been attempted to be perpetrated upon all the urnals composing our association. We took pains in the afternoon to apprize Gen. Dix of

the facts in the case, and gave him such information in re gard to the circumstances of the forgery as might assist him in the discovery of its author. The Government was

him in the discovery of its author. The Government was at once put in possession of the facts in the case.

Nevertheless, this evening Gen. Dix, acting under persemptory orders from the Government, placed our offices under a strong military guard, and issued warrants for the arrest of the editors and proprietors of the World and Journal of Commerce, and their imprisonment in Fort Lafayette. A vessel was lying, under steam, at one of the wharves to convey us thither.

Chancing to meet one of the officers of Gen. Dix's staff.

charged with the execution of this order, we proceeded in his company to the headquarters of the Department of the East, and were informed by Gen. Dix that the order for arrest had been suspended, but that the order for the sup-pression of the publication of the World and Journal of Commerce had not been reseinded, and that we could not be permitted to enter our offices, which continue under the charge of the military guards.

We protest against this proceeding We protest against the assumption of our complicity with this shameless forgery implied in the order for our arrest. We protest against the suppression of our levels of the suppression of our levels. against the suppression of our journals for the misfortune o being deceived by a forgery not less ingenious nor plausible than the forged report of the Confederate Secretary of War, which Secretary Seward made the basis of diplo PRIME, STONE, HALE, & HALLOCK,

New York, May 18, 1864.

Journal of Commerce.
MANTON MARBLE, World.

THE REVENUE MEASURES.

A letter to New York, in speaking of the tax bill of the House, which was reported yesterday by the Finance Committee of the Senate, says :

"A number of important amendments have been made especially in the provisions of the bill as to the collection of the taxes, and also looking toward increasing the amount of revenue. It is understood that the exigencies of the Government at the present time require an increase o sixty million dollars revenue over the amount which it is estimated would be produced by the House bill, and to secure this the committee will report an increase of the tax on distilled spirits from \$1 to \$1 50, with probably an additional increase to \$2, to take effect on January 1, 1865. The section of the House bill taxing stock on hand is stricken out. The tax on c gars and tobacco has been revised, with an average increase of about ten cents per pound over the amount imposed by the House."

MORE ONE HUNDRED DAYS' MEN The 164th Ohio, numbering 850 men, and 166th Ohio 90 0 men, for appoint service of one hundred days, have

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1864.

In the SENATE a bill reported by Mr. COWAN, from the nittee on Finance, to amend the act extending the time for the withdrawal of goods on bond at San Francisco and for other purposes, approved February 29, 1864, was considered and passed. Mr. Cowan, from the same committee, also reported a bill to indemnify persons for loss of property from Sioux Indian depredations, with a recomendation that it pass. It was not at that time considered. Mr. HARDING, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to amend the act of September 27, 1850, in relation to donation settlers upon public lands in Califor-

Mr. MORRILL, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill for the erection of the Territorial Government of Montano, made a report recommending that the Senate recede from its smendment striking out the words "every free white inhabitant" in regard to voters, and inserting "all citizens of the U. States," &c. On a motion to adopt the report of the committee considerable debate took place between Messrs. HALE and SUMNER, in opposition to the motion and Messrs. MORRILL and WADE in favor of it. The mo tion finally prevailed.

Mr. FESSENDEN from the Finance Committee reporter the bill from the House to increase the internal revenue with various amendments thereto, which were ordered to

The Pacific railroad bill was further discussed on amend ments proposed thereto, but was not disposed of when the

The House of Representatives passed the Indian appropriation bill; and fter some personal explanations respecting speeches made in recent debates, the consideration of the resiprocity bill was resumed. Mr. PIKE spoke in favor of abrogating the existing treaty on this subject, and Mr. ARNOLD advocated a modification thereof. The bill was still pending at the time of adjournment.

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1864.

In the SENATE a bill was introduced by Mr. WILSON which proposes to authorize the President to call into the United States service by draft, for a period not exceeding June. one year, such number of men as the exigencies of the service may require. It was referred to the Committee on Military Affaire.

Mr. COLLAMER called up the bill to authorize the establishment of ocean mail steamship service between the United States and Brazil, the pending question being on the amendment of Mr. WILKINSON to carry out a contract between the Government of Venezuela and certain citizens of New York for a semi-monthly line from that city to Laguayra and other Venezuelan ports, touching at St. Thomas. Mr. WILKINSON said if we were to establish a line with the slave empire of Brazil, we ought also to embrace this opportunity of extending our com. merce with the free Republic of Venezuela. Mr Col-LAMER urged, as heretofore, that this bill for Brazil should stand alone, and deprecated this bringing of the slavery on citizens of honor and character for being the subject into every question. The amendment was rejected, and, after some further debate on the general merita of the measure, it was laid over.

The consideration of the Pacific railroad bill was re sumed, and the discussion theron continued until the Senate closed its doors and proceeded to the consideration of Executive business.

The House of Representatives agreed to the reagreeing votes of the two Houses relative to pegro suffrage in the Territory of Montaoa. Mr. WEBSTER made the report. He stated that the Senate had amended the bill so as to allow colored persons to vote, but that the report confined suffrage to white male citizens of the United Montane requires only the signature of the President to

Much of the day was occupied in the consideration private bills, a number of which were passed.

During the day the Hon. E. C. INGERSOLL, a Reprecentative from Illinois, was introduced and took his sent He fills the vacancy caused by the death of the HenOwer Lovejoy.

The House adjourned to Monday, in pursuance of a re solution introduced by Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, in order that the members may have leisure to visit wounded officers and soldiers from their respective districts and see that they are properly cared for.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1864.

In the SENATE the first business was the presentation by Mr. LANE of the credentials of WM. M. FISHBLATT, elected Senator from Arkansas by the General Assembly that the House non-concur in them and ask of the Senate of that State on the 6th instant to fill the unexpired term of Win. A. Sebastian, resigned. Mr. SAULSBURY suggested that they should be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the validity of the election. Mr. CONNESS moved so to refer the credentials, and, at act upon the amendments. The majority of them were the suggestion of Mr. LANE, the consideration of the motion was postponed until Monday.

Mr. Foor called up the bill relating to the office of Commissioner of Public Buildings. He stated that it had in the city of Washington. been twice before under consideration in the Senate and left unfinished. He repelled the objection that had been made in the bill, that it was an attack on the Secretary o the Interior, and explained that it was merely a legitimate matter of saving above five thousand dollars per annum to the Government, an expense which had been incurred by the appointment by the Secretary of a general superinten-dent of the Capitol Extension, which he held without authority of law, and was entirely useless, as all the duti in this connexion could be discharged by the Commission of Public Buildings, as proposed in the bill. He held as ridiculous the arguments beretofore made in defence of the present superintendent, that because large amounts of expenditure had been made during certain mouths of his service as compared with corresponding months prior thereto, therefore advantage and economy resulted to the Government. He did not desire to indicate that the superintendent appointed by the Secretary of the Interior was not a young gentleman of fair abilities, a good draughteman and penman, and had given his services in some way all the while to the Government; but, if he was credibly informed, that gentleman had in no wise given practical and personal superintendence to the progress of this great and costly work to any considerable extent at any time. If the gentleman must be provided for under the Government for that appeared now to be the question, he hoped it would be in some other employment than this. Mr. LANE, of Indiana, indicated his intention to make some reply to these remarks hereafter, and the bill was laid over.

The Pacific railroad bill then came up as the unfinished business. The bill in its details was discussed at conside rable length, and various amendments were adopted, when on motion of Mr. MORGAN, the Senate went into Executive session, and subsequently adjourned.

The House of REPRESENTATIVES did not sit on Satur-

day, having adjourned from Friday to Monday. MONDAY, MAY 23, 1864.

In the SENATE a message was received from the Sec retary of War, in response to a resolution of May 12th, giving a list of all general officers, regular and volunteer in the military service before and since the commence ment of the present war, their respective States, dates of appointment, confirmation, &c .- and naming also those who have been rejected, dropped, or resigned.

Mr. MORSAN introduced a bill which, in effect, repeal the three hundred commutation clause of the surelment act. It was referred to the Military Committee. The bill relating to naval supplies was taken up, on m

tion of Mr. GRIMES, who spoke at length in defence of the

navy agents and master workmen, but reiterating his statements as to corruption in the navy. Mr. Davis thought it strange that the Senator should charge corruption and pro-

pose no measure to punish the criminals. Mr. DOOLITTLE affirmed that when the facts of the matter in controversy should be brought to light no officer or clerk of the Navy Department would be criminated. The discussion was brought to a close by the arrival of the hour for taking up the unfinished business—the Pacific railroad bill—which was passed, yeas 23, navs 5.

In the House of Representatives a resolution was offered by Mr. Davis, of Maryland, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, calling upon the President for copies of the documents addressed to the French Government, as mentioned by the Paris Moniteur, to the effect that the resolutions passed by the House relative to the affairs in Mexico were indefinitely postponed by the Senate, and, even if they had been passed by that body, the Executive would not have sanctioned them. This resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. PRUYN asked leave to submit a resolution, which had been adopted by his political colleagues from New York, denouncing the suspension of the New York World and the Journal of Commerce as a violation of the Constitution, subversive of the principles of civil liberty, and as such is censured by the House. Objection having been made, Mr. PRUYN moved a suspension of the rules in order that he might introduce the resolution, which motion was disgreed to-yeas 54, nays 79.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Elections, reported a resolution that Messrs. Chandler, Segar, and Kitchen, who have been denied seats as Representatives from Virginia, be allowed mileage for one ession, and monthly pay till the passage of the resolutions in their respective cases. Mr. D. stated that Mr. Chandler is district attorney in the eastern district of Virginia, but receives no salary, his compensation being paid in fees, probably two thousand five hundred dollars per annum. After some conversation Mr. Chaudler's name was stricken out and the resolution, as thus amended, was passed -veas 60, nave 57.

On motion of Mr. COFFROTH, it was resolved, the Senate concurring, that the two Houses adjourn on the 6th of

The executive, legislative, and judicial appropriation bill was taken up, and various amendments proposed thereto by the Senate were considered and determined. The House then adjourned.

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1864.

In the SENATE a favorable report was made by Mr VAN WINKLE, from the Committee on Finance, on the House bill to punish and prevent the counterfeiting of coin of the United States.

On motion of Mr. COLLAMER the bill to authorize the establishment of ocean mail steamship service between the United States and Brazil was taken up and passed, yeas 21, pays 14.

Mr. McDougall submitted a resolution that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from the further consideration of the joint resolution of the House relative to the establishment of monarchical institutions in Mexico, under European influence, which was laid over.

Mr. WADE reported from the Committee on Territories joint resolution to amend the charter of the city of Wash ington. He asked that it be taken up, as it related to voters in this city, and the election was approaching. Mr. Johnson inquired what was the difference between port of the committee of conference in reference to the dis. this and the present law. Mr. WADE said it simply provided for the deficiencies in the present law as regards registration. At present voters could not be registered after a certain period, some months at times prior to the election, and by this bill they could be registered up to and including the day of election. Mr. JOHNSON said States and those who have declared their intention to there should be some convenient period fixed whereat the come such. The report was concurred in-yeas 102, registration should cease, prior to the day of election. report, the bill providing a Territorial Government for five days. Mr. WADE said he had no objection to such an favor of repealing the treaty, after which the House amendment. After passing the joint resolution to its adjourned. second reading it was laid over. This bill appears to us to confer the right of voting without regard to the present laws requiring a poll-tax for the benefit of the public schools.

On motion of Mr. FESSENDEN, the internal revenue bill was then taken up and discussed. The amendments of the Figure Committee of the Segate were in general agreed to, but the bill was not disposed of at the time of

In the House of Representatives, the Committee on the Judiciary was, on motion of Mr. WILSON, instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill for the holding of the United States District Court of Virginia at Alexandria

The Senate's amendments to the national currency bill having been taken up, Mr. Hoopen unsuccessfully moved a committee of conference. Mr. HOLMAN then moved that the amendments be laid on the table; but this motion was also disagreed to-neas 56, pays 80. The House then proceeded, under the operation of the previous question, to concurred in, but, as some were disagreed to, the bill will go back to the Senate.

A bill was passed to incorporate "a newsboys' home

The bill proposing to terminate the "Canadian recipro city treaty" was sgain taken up, when Mr. DAVIS, of New York, made a speech against it. The bill is still pending.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1864.

In the SENATE a memorial was presented by Mr. JOHNson, from the Bank of New Orleans, (La.) praying to be relieved from the tax on deposites under the national bank bill, so far as desposites have been made in it of Confederate funds. The memorial represents that during the possession of the city of New Orleans by the Confederates the Bank was forced to take such sums on deposite, with the right to pay in like currency, but after the occupation by Gen. Butler he compelled them to pay in gold and silver or currency. The memorial asks the withholding of the tax till the Bank shall have an opportunity of testing the legality of the contract. It was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SUMBER, from the Committee on Slavery and freedmen, reported back the bill to establish a Bureau of Freedmen, with a substitue therefor. Mr. TRUMBULL, from the Judiciary Committee, report-

ed back the resolution for taking the census in 1865, with recommendation that it be passed. Mr. LANE, of Kaneas, submitted a resolution that the

Committee on Indian Affairs be requested to consider the question of confiscating the reserves of all Indian tribes who are or have been in arms against the Government, and providing homes for the loyal members of such tribes. and to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. SPRAGUE offered the following preamble and reso

Whereas large corps have been and are now being orwhoreas large corps have been and are now being or-ganized in the military service of the United States with-out the advice and consent of the Senate in the appoint-ment and commissioning of the officers: Be it therefore Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be and they hereby are directed to inquire into the expedien-cy of reporting a bill to the Senate requiring that all appointments in the servise aforesaid, herestofore made, or which may be reafter be made, shall have the advice and consent of the Senate, as provided by law in other cases, and that the commissions of all officers not receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to their nomination will expire with the present session of Congress

In reply to an inquiry by Mr. WILSON in regard to the heads of the naval bureaus and against the class contract resolution, Mr. SPRAGUE said the Government was organ

system. Mr. Halk replied, slso at length, defending the | izing a large negro and invalid force and appointing officers to it without the advice and consent of the Senate. This he thought should not be. The resolution was passed. Mr. MORGAN, from the Committee on Military Affairs,

reported back the bill to prohibit the discharge of persons from liability to military duty by reason of the payment of money, &c , with amendment, consisting of the following additional sections :

Sec. 2. That nothing in the act approved February 24, 1864, amending the act approved March 3, 1863, for enrolling and calling out the national forces, shall be construed to repeal that part of the said act approved March 3, 1863, which requires that the board of enrolment, in making drafts, shall "make a draft of the required number and fitty per cent in addition."
Sec. 3 That section 12 of the "Act for enrolling and

calling out the national forces and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1863, be and is hereby so amended that the notice to be served on drafted men may be served within ten days after such draft, or at any time within six

Mr. WADE offered the following, which was adopted: Resolved, That the President be requested to commun terest, any correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Mexican Minister, in relation to the course of trade between France and the United States while France and Mexico were at war with each other, in articles supposed to be in derogation of the rights of neutrals; and also all to the information in possession of the Government relative to the present condition of sffairs in the republic of Mexico, and especially upon the attempt of any European Powers to overthrow republican institutions on this continent, with a view of establishing monarchical forms of government in their stead.

Mr. HALE introduced a bill to provide for the efficiency of the navy by the transfer of persons from the military the naval service.

The consideration of the bill to increase the interna revenue was resumed, and discussed on the amendments proposed thereto by the Senate's Committee on Finance One of these amendments was amended so as to make the tax on a barrel of ale, beer, or other fermented liquors one dollar and twenty-five, instead of one dollar and fifty cents The other amendments of the Finance Committee, so fa as the bill progressed, were retained.

In the House of Representatives a report wa made by Mr. MORRILL, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses in relation to the pay of colored troops, as provided for in the army bil The report makes a distinction in favor of such of those troops as were promised pay equal to the white soldiers leaving other similar questions to be determined according to the law. Mr. STEVENS opposed the report. He said that on a prior day the House passed, by a large vote, a proviso that all free colored men shall receive the way to the printing office—and to this accident it is due that it was not published in two other of the morning padiscarded this instruction, and have adopted the Senate's pers. In both those offices it became known—by the amendment with an amendment. Members of this House. he said, should not dodge the question. He would prefer losing the bill to abandoning the principle of giving full pay to those men for services rendered in the Union army. Mr. SPAULDING advocated the paying of all colored soldiers the same as white men, without distinction as to the time of entering the service. Mr. GARFIELD was against paying men money they had no right to expect. It would be a gratuity to give to black men what would not be given to white men. Other gentlemen engaged in the debate; among them Mr. THAYER, of Pennsylvania, who claimed simple justice to all colored troops alike. The discussion was further continued-the points involved being whether the colored troops who entered the service prior to the lat of January last should receive the same pay as white soldiers, or whether the provision should not be extended to all colored troops alike. The House rejected the report, and asked another committee of cen-

The reciprocity bill was again taken up. Mr. ELIOT and Mr. PRUVN made speeches in favor of appointing commissioners to act with those who may be appointed by the British Provinces, with a view to establish more perfect reciprocity between the two countries. M pays 26. The Senate having previously concurred in this This was absolutely necessary. It might be only three or SPALDING and Mr. KELLOGG addressed the House in

CONVICTED OF FRAUD.

Salomon Kohnstamm was convicted on Saturday last in the Circuit Court of the United States at New York of having defrauded the Government. It is more than a year since he was arrested on account of these fraudulen claims. He was first sent to Fort Lafayette, but was transferred from thence to the Old Capitol prison a Washington, and, after being confined there some time was released, and these proceedings were commenced Forty seven indictments were found against him last June on one of which the Government elected to proceed agains him, and, after several postponements of the case, succeed ed in bringing it to trial. The case which was made ou against the accused was briefly this:

On the 2d of August, 1862, there was paid to him at the disbursing office in New York a check for \$9,173 79, be ing the amount of eighteen bills against the Governmen for the subsistence and lodging of recruits. One of these bills was a bill of one Louis Pfeffer, of Albany, for the amount of \$1,366, and this was the bill for the presentation of which this one of the forty-seven indictments against Kohnstamm was found. The Government proved also that all that was due to Pfeffer was less than \$100.

No testimony was given of the actual presentation of the bill at the disbursing office, and the defence made quite a bill at the disbursing office, and the defence made quite a point of this failure of proof, as they called it, for it was the presentation of the bill for which the accused was indicted. This point, however, was disposed of very summarily by Judge Nelson, who told the jury that the fact that Kohnstamm got the money on the bill was evidence enough that he presented it, either in person or by an agent, which was plainly the common sense view of the matter.

There remained the question of Kohnstamm' knowledge that the bill was false. On this point the Government gave some direct evidence and some in direct. They produced the testimony of the Lieu tenant Colonel of the regiment for which Pfeffer'. bill was incurred; that he was applied to by Kohnstamm's cause it was false. They proved also that six or sever other bills, which were also presented by Kohnstamm about the same time, and paid to him, were all false—some of them having no foundation whatever, and others being swelled up from \$200 to over \$1,000, and from \$300 over \$2,000, &c. They proved the falsity of every bil the court allowed them to attack. They also gave evi lence which, if the witnesses were to be believed, showe that Kohnstamm's office was a regular manufactory of fraudulent bills; they gave the details of the operations and the advice and instructions which Kohnstamm gave his agents for carrying them out. If the witnesses for Government were to be believed, his guilty knowledge was clear as daylight.

This testimony against him was met by very little counter-testimony for the defence. They did not undertake to prove the correctness of one of the fraudulent bills. They did not attempt to contradict the statement that Kohnstamm had bought these bills at merely nomina prices. They relied mainly upon contradictions and im probabilities in the testimony of the Government's wit-nesses, as discrediting them before the jury. And by rea-son of such contradictions they hoped to get the jury to disbelieve them and secure an acquittal. The difficulty was that the testimony had the ugly fact of Kohnstamm' collecting the bills to support it, and the more the defence espattered the witnesses, the more they showed that Cohnstamm was an associate of a set of villains, who were confessedly engaged in swindling the Government. We consider the result of the trial as a great public

benefit. There has been so much fraud in connexion with time that some one should be made an example of, and we consider this conviction as an important success for the Government, which we hope will be speed by followed up. The case excited great interest, from the standing which Kohnstamm has had in the community, and the court room was crowded every day of the week during which the trial lasted .-- N. Y. Times.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE. In Executive session on Wednesday the Senate confirm

ed a large number of nominations, including James H. Campbell, of Pennsylvania, to be Minister at Stockholm; Lieut. Col. Delafield, to be Chief Engineer, with the rank of Brigadier General; and Hon. Charles Hale, of Massachusetts, Consul General at Alexandria, Egypt. There were more than two hundred army promotions confirmed.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR AND THE PRESS.

Promptitude of decision is doubtless of the first mportance in military action, but the exercise of this quality is very dangerous if it be demanded of one whose judgment is not safe. An occasional lapse of the latter faculty has, as our readers know, led our impulsive Secretary of War into some unfortunate mistakes in military affairs, and, as we intimated in our yesterday's issue, his impetuous though laudable passion for punishing culprits has just hurried him into the commission of a fresh error-not a military one, luckily this time, nor yet a civil one-but into the grave error of punishing innocent accessories to an offence in default of discovering the guilty instigators and perpetrators. This error is no less than suspending the business of his victims and ordering them to imprisonment. We allude of course to the recent suppression of two New York journals and the order to commit their proprietors to Fort Lafayette. We would not speak in harsh terms of this arbitrary act of power, nor certainly in terms of the slightest disrespect towards the distinguished functionary who has committed the wrong; but its injustice is held to be so flagrant in New York as to have called

From the Tribune.

forth the condemnation of the public press of all

parties in that city. We subjoin the opinions

expressed by three of its leading Republican jour-

Two of the morning papers of this city are to-day sus pended. It is done in consequence of the publication yes terday in the Journal of Commerce and the World of the forged proclamation, and, we presume, by order of the Government. The forged proclamation was sent to every paper of the Associated Press, except our own, and in such a shape as to lead those who received it to believe it came from the office of the Association. It was sent, designedly no doubt, when it was presumed that it would be seen by none of the editors, but would be taken by the printers and burried into a part of the morning edition of each paper. That it did not find its way to this office was probably an accident—the editorial rooms being closed. nd the messenger, perhaps, not knowing how to find his nerest accident in one of them, by inquiry in the otherthat we had not received it, and suspicion being excited by that fact, the forged document, though in type, was supressed in both offices

The forgery was as ingenious, as to the method of its circulation, though clumsy in its style, as it was bold and wicked. It was intended, no doubt, to affect the stock narket, as well as to nullify the influence of the news of Frant's successes, to be taken out by the steamer yester day. It failed signally in the latter purpose, as it was ac-companied by an official denial of its truth. In Wall street it was not without its influence, where no lie is so big that it cannot be awallowed

The real facts which led to the publication of this mon-Washington, or the suspension of the two journals would not, we suppose, have been ordered. The order, no doubt, will be revoked to-day. We hope it will; for certainly no journal should be punished for a mistake which might have very innocently been committed by the most loyal paper in the land.

From the Commercial Advertiser.

We gave yesterday as full accounts as could be pro ured in regard to the fraudulent proclamation which some of our contemporaries were led to publish. To day we publish the statements of the proprietors and editors of merce and greatness will be broken down. If this centre the World and the Journal of Commerce, which explain section with this matter, and show that they were the victims of a fraud, skilfully played by some one familiar with the customs of the Associated Press and of the newspapers in regard to telegraphic despatches.

It is evident that the journals in question erred inno cently, and that they had no intention to mislead, or to be parties to the fraud committed. The Tribune half admits t would not have questioned the document had it been left at that office, and it was this omission to favor the Tribune that put some other papers on their guard, and so obviated the fatal necessity which led Secretary Stanton to commit the grievous error by which be has again shown his contempt for the freedom of the newspaper press Last night, as every body learned with surprise this morning, the effices of the World and Journal of Commerce were taken in charge by troops acting under orders from Washington. Their publication was also suppressed A further order was issued for the arrest of the editors. but this was suspended. It is so short a time since Mr. Seward was led to put faith in a forged document, and to make it the basis of diplomatic action, that the Washington authorities should be lenient to those who sin in th same way. The forged rebel navy report has done us im mensely more harm than his bogus proclamation possibly could do. Yet the "gentleman in New York" who invented it, and palmed it off as a jeu d'esprit, has not been troubled and the Secretary of State, has shown no signs of indignation against the author. A more recent fraud is the cor-respondence between Lyons and Jeff. Davis, or rather the clerk of the latter. The sagacity even of the highest offi-cial may sometimes be at fault, and he should demand no ore of others than he is willing to assume for himself. It is to be hoped that by this time the facts in regard to the publication of this proclamation are known in Wash-ington, and that wisdom enough will be manifested there

suspended for acts committed entirely without design or thought of criminality. From the Evening Post.

With our views of the importance and inviolability of the liberty of the press, our readers will not expect us to approve of the suppression of the two newspapers, the Journal of Commerce and the World, by the authority of the Federal Government If there be any right which the founders of our Govern

o revoke the order against these two journals. It is fully

to an end. The sentiment that found expression when the attempt was made to throttle freedom of debate on the

floor of Congress, has not lost its force when presses are

time that arbitrary and unjustifiable procedure be br

ment sought to guard from violation with a special care, it is the right freely to discuss political questions and public measures by means of the press. Accordingly, the Constitution of the United States provides that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, and in another article declares that "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, from unreasonable searches and seizures, shall The freedom of the press is asserted in not be violated. the same article of our Constitution as the freedom of religious belief, and guarded from infringement by the same explicit terms. Moreover, in every Constitution of every State in the Union it is expressly stipulated that certa rights are to be exempted from the ordinary proceedings of Government, and among these is the freedom of the press, which is placed on the same high level with the rights of conscience and the right of the people to assemble for the purpose of demanding a redress of grievances, or to bring about a change of administration.

The early statesmen of our country, by whom these constitutions were made, were so jealous of the infringement of these great rights that they would not leave it to the discretion of any Government, of the States or the Nation, to interfere with them. It is, therefore, with pain that we see the offices of any of our journals entered by the agents of the Government, and their publication stopped, at the com-mand of the Executive. We do not mean to say that there is no case in which the military power might not interfere to prevent the publication of a newspaper manifestly instigating treason and rebellion in a part of the country for the possession of which the rebel Government is contend-ing with ours, and in which the suppression of the delinquent journal becomes a sort of military necessity the necessity ought to be clear, and the power of litary necessity. But ference ought to be confined to the cases we have men-tioned. In all other instances the punishment of sedition should be left to the ordinary remedies provided by law. The publishers of the offending journals may be arraigned,

tried, convicted, and sentenced; and in cases where it is tried, convicted, and sentenced; and in cases where it is pretty certain that they are accomplices of those who are at war with our country more severe personal measures may be justified. But to march a platoon of armed men nto the office of a journal and stop its publication in a part of the country which has not been placed, and which there is no necessity of placing, under martial law, is a proceeding which has a strange aspect when we compare it with the constitutional provisions by which the rights of

proceeding which has a strange aspect when we compare
it with the constitutional provisions by which the rights of
the press are so seculously guarded from violation.

We cannot, therefore, but join in the hope expressed by
some of the moroing papers, that the order for the suppression of these journals will be immediately rescinded;
and this not so much for the reason that the publishers and this not so much for the reason that the publishers might have been entirely unaware that the pretended proclamation was a forgery, as for the higher and stronger reason that the order is an extreme measure, suited only to a state of things which does not exist in this commu-nity, and for which the plea of necessity cannot be urged. It is a remarkable indication of the haste with which the

order to suppress these journals was given, that it included the arrest of five of the operators of the Independent Telegraph office in this city, who have been sent to Fort Lafayette, although it is well known here that they had nothing whatever to do with the false proclamation, except to send a despatch to Boston announcing it to be a most shameful imposture.

We do not in any respect seek or wish to extenuate the guilt of those who were concerned in getting up the foruineness, or who, having given it circulation, were tardy n giving public notice of its real character. The authors in giving puelic notice of its real character. The authors of this cheat and their accomplices are as much the instruments of the rebel Government as if they were its salaried spies, and are equally deserving of an ignominious punishment. As much severity as you please sgainst those who are guilty of the forgery or who favored it—the public feeling will approve it—but that severity should be combined with a manifest desire to infringe none of those rights of the citizen which a free Government ought to cherich with a secundors regard. cherish with a scrupulous regard.

THE NEWSPAPER SUPPRESSION IN NEW YORK.

The following is a copy of the letter from Governor SEYMOUR, of New York, to the State's Attorney for the county of New York, which has been referred to in the telegraphic columns of some of the newspapers. It directs the District Attorney to investigate, and, if need be, to prosecute all concerned in the recent seizure of The World and the Journal of Commerce:

STATE OF NEW YORK. Executive Department, Albany, May 23, 1864.

To A. OAKEY HALL, Esq.

District Attorney of the County of New York.

Sir: I am advised that on the 19th instant the office of the Journal of Commerce and that of the New York World were entered by armed men, the property of the owners seized, and the premises held by force for several days. It is charged that these acts of violence were done with-out due legal process, and without the sanction of State or National laws. If this be true the offenders must be the Journal of Commerce and that of the New York World

In the month of July last, when New York was a scene ry in the other— of violence, I gave warning that "the laws of the State must being excited by be enforced, its peace and order maintained, and the property of its citizens protected at every hazard." The laws were enforced at a fearful cost of blood and life.

The declaration I then made was not intended merely

for that occasion or against any class of men. It is one of an enduring character, to be asserted at all times and against all conditions of citizens, without favor or distinction. Unless all are made to bow to the law it will be respected by none. Unless all are made secure in their rights of person and property none can be protected. If the owners of the above-named journals have violated State or National laws they must be proceeded against and pun-ished by those laws. Any action against them outside of legal procedures is criminal. At this time of civil war and disorder the majesty of the law must be upheld or society will sink into anarchy. Our soldiers in the field will battle in vain for constitutional liberty if persons or property or opinions are trampled upon at home. We must not give up home-freedom and thus disgrace the American character while our citizens in the army are pouring out their blood to maintain the national honor. They must not find when they come back that their personal and freeide rights have been despoiled.

In addition to the general obligation to enforce the laws of the land, there are local reasons why they must be upof wealth, business, and enterprise is thrown into dis lyzed. What makes New York the heart of our country!
Why are its pulsations felt at the extremities of our land?
Not through its position alone, but because of the worldwide belief that property is safe within its limits from

waste by mobs and from spoliation by Government. The laborers in the workshop, the mine, and in the field, on this continent, and in every other part of the globe, send to its merchants, for sale or exchange, the ground soft their toil. These merchants are made the trustees of the wealth of millions living in every land, because it is believed that in their hands property is safe under the shield of laws administered upon principle and according to known usages. This great confidence has grown up in the course of many years by virtue of a painstaking, honest performance of duty by the business men of your city. In this they have been aided by the enforcement of laws based upon the scientily recorded pledges that "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and that no one shall be deprived of liberty or property without due rocess of law."

For more than eighty years have we as a people been building up this universal faith in the sanctity of our juris prodesse. It is this wrich carries our commerce upon every ocean and brings back to our merchants the wealth of every clime. It is now charged that, in utter disregard of the sensitiveness of that faith, at a moment when nation credit is undergoing a fearful trial, the organs of commerce are seized and held, in violation of constitutional pledges; that this act was done in a public mart of your great city, and was thus forced upon the notice of the commercial agents of the world, and they were shown in an offensive way that property is seized by military force and arbitrary

These things are more hurtful to the national honor and strength than the loss of battles. The world will confound such acts with the principles of our Government, and the folly and crimes of officials will be looked upon as the natural results of the spirit of our institutions. Our State and local authorities must repel this ruinous inference. If the merchants of New York are not willing to have their the merchants of New York are not willing to have their harbor scaled up and their commerce paralyzed, they must unite in this demand for the security of persons and pro-perty. If this is not done, the world will withdraw from their keeping its treasures and its commerce. History has taught all that official violation of law in times of civil war and disorder goes before acts of spolistion and other mea-

sures which destroy the safeguards of commerce
I call upon you to look into the facts connected with
the seizure of the Journal of Commerce and of the New
York World. If these acts were illegal, the offsuders must be punished. In making your inquiries and in prosecuting the parties implicated, you will call upon the sheriff of the county and the heads of the police department for any needed force or assistance. The failure to give this by any official under my control will be deemed sufficient cause for his removal.

Very respectfully, yours, &c HORATIO SEYMOUR.

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE Yesterday, May 25th, 1864,

rnished by STEUART & Co., Bankers, Fift	teenth stree
First Board, S	Second Boar
U. S. Coupons of 1881	1144
U S 5-20 Coupon Bonds 106%	1071
Gold184	1844
Canton 434	43
Cumberland 741	754
Central Cont	714
Quicksilver 793	824
Pacific Mail 235	2344
New York Central	1334
Erie 115%	1151
Hudson River	1461
Harlem	280
Reading 1454	1448
M obigan Central1454	1454
Michigan Southern 1004	994
Itlinois Central	131
Cleveland and Pitteburg	115
Galeon and Chicago	136
Cleveland and Toledo 1484	1494
Chicago and Rock Island	11.0
Toledonand Wabash 71	71
Pittsburg, Fort Wayne, & Chic's 1164	117
State of Market Strady	Weak.

During the canal break a few days ago in New York State, the jam of boats extended thirty-five miles west of the Whitesboro' canal.